

Colonial work throughout the bounds of the Congregational Union of England and Wales, and Scotland, would require four years of unremitting toil. I am here for six months, and I think it is the desire of our Executive in Canada that I get back if possible in four. Nearly two are gone already, and, it appears to me, next to nothing is done.

The churches are not indifferent to us, but they have almost no knowledge of our wants. How shall we get information before them? that is the problem. It is a long way off yet; but, soon after this reaches your readers, the season of reunion and congratulations will be upon us. May I at this distance of space and time, wish you, Mr. Editor and your family, and numerous readers—most of whom I know personally—a most *Delightful Christmas* and a *Happy New Year*. I remain very truly yours,

THOS. HALL.

Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street, London.

I have commenced a series of Articles on Canada in the *Christian World*, which I sincerely hope may reach and influence many, whom I cannot expect to reach in any other way.

OUR COLLEGE LETTER.

One more term is nearly gone. The examinations remind us very unceremoniously of *tempus fugit*, and we propose giving you a glimpse into our doings here before the festive season with all its busy pleasures and happy reunions takes place, and give you, if possible, a little pleasure before that time arrives, as we consider talking to friends is one of the most pleasant things we have to do.

But there are some things which cause sorrow, and yet the shades of peace are drawn over so gently by the Master of Assemblies that all is made bright—we refer to the death of our venerable and beloved professor, the late Rev. Henry Wilkes, D.D., who entered into the paradise of God, Nov. 17. Honoured and beloved, this noble minister of God has entered into his well-won rest. In this city, where he lived and laboured for more than half a century, the news of his death brought sadness to thousands of hearts, and not here only, but throughout our Dominion, United States and in England, for his influence was known and felt far beyond his own sphere of labour. He was a remarkable man, preëminent among his fellows, of spotless integrity, of unblemished honour, with the nicest sense of justice and right. He was a large-hearted man—he was a kind man—he was a true man—true to himself, and true to his own ideals of duty—true to his friends, and true to his principles, true to his God. In one word, he was a Christian gentleman in the highest sense of the word. “As a preacher he was earnest, instructive and intensely evangelical,

and his sermons never failed to stir the hearts of his hearers, and to convince their understanding”—as every Protestant pulpit in this city bore hearty testimony. Thus we consider (if, as philosophers say, to convince is eloquence) Dr. Wilkes possessed the highest and best form of eloquence; and he has performed a work, such as is given to but few to accomplish.

But it is as a teacher and friend we know him best. There was an impressive grandeur, combined with a sweet simplicity, in his life and character which was fashioned by the precepts of Him whom he so faithfully served. In speaking of the most sacred truths of our holy religion, he spake as one who realized in his heart by blessed experience that the things whereof he spake were true—gave no uncertain sound. When reviewing his life one day we shall not soon forget the fire and enthusiasm which manifested itself, and the joy that spread over the old man's face, as he enthusiastically spoke of the many who kept sending him word from time to time that through some sermon he preached they entered into the Kingdom of God. Active in all good work, a few days before the Lord took him we received the last lecture at his own house. We saw the change, and with a feeling of sorrow we bade the old master in Israel farewell—never more to meet as professor and students. And in speaking thus of our beloved professor and friend, we would express the hope that the influence of his life may so mould and shape ours that we may, like him, serve faithfully our God and generation.

Our churches will no doubt by this time have the circulars sent out with the approval of the board, giving detailed information about our college, as to its needs at this present time. We express the hope that all our churches will assist the board in the way of money, in order that they may be able to get a learned and efficient principal, and also professor to fill the late Dr. Wilkes' place.

I may make a suggestion (of course it will not be binding), that if some one or more would send, as a Christmas present, twenty, fifty or a hundred thousand dollars (we would not be particular to a dollar) to endow the principal's and professor's chairs in our college, we can assure any that think of complying with this request, that Mr. Hague, on behalf of the College Board, will give the money a hearty welcome. And the giver could balance his account, and have the joy of extending the Master's kingdom, and thus make Christmas an exceedingly joyful day.

We have started a mission in St. Ann's, a place about twenty-one miles from here. It appears that this place, so near this great city (“City of Churches”) has heretofore been entirely without Protestant service during the winter months. There are a number of English-speaking people of good families, who seem to take a hearty interest in the movement, and are